The Repeater

The W6VVR Newsletter

The Newsletter for February 2024

Image courtesy of Museum of Radio and Technology

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THE VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browse our website for more information about our club. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance.

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625- 0143.

An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988.

General Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM See the directions on the last several pages.

Meetings Are Wheelchair Accessible

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A Message from The Editors of The Repeater

Now that February is here, it is once again time to set sights on projects that need to be taken care of around the shack.

Now is a good time while the weather is unstable, to stay inside enjoying a cup of coffee or tea and program that radio you have just lying there, or learn Morse code. Perhaps you might read one of the many varied ARRL publications aside from QST.

With June field day approaching perhaps it would be a good time to learn about the Incident Command System used for planning events and when disasters occur. And yes the Incident Command System can be used for event planing.

Perhaps you might start thinking about a new antenna you would like to erect at home. Or try your hand at building your own mobile antenna for use on high frequency.

Now is the time for learning and planning for the future.

With this years Winter Field Day over, I want to thank everyone who participated in the 2024 Winter Field Day, thanks for continuing to make it a success. Thank you for realizing that things don't just happen when the weather is good but, as we saw on New Years Day in Japan, things happen at any time. We need to be trained and ready to react even when conditions arent optimal or to our liking and we are uncomfortable.

It is time to plan ahead and continue to learn and be ready for the future.

The editors

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A Message from The President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the President Servando Miramontes, K6SRD

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A message from the Vice President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the incoming Vice President Dan Martin N6ETR

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A message from the Treasurer

We ended 2023 on a good note, financially. In the chart below the first column is funds allocated to club projects. We did not add or remove monies from this account in 2023 so we ended the year with what we started $616.00. The Repeater Fund started with $2442.69 and after credits and debits ended the year with $2582.09. The majority of this cost is our repeater site expenses. Total funds is the total amount of money the club has between our checking and PayPal accounts. The Non-Dedicated Funds show is that we ended the year with a deficit of ($27.51). This is the difference between the total of the two funds subtracted from the Total Funds column. This is just an accounting issue and really does not mean that we don't have any money. It just shows that there is a deficit in the funds which are not allocated to a specific use. This deficit is already gone in today.

I hope this helps you understand our financial situation.

Bryan,
KB0A

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB NOTES 2023				
	PROJECT FUND	REPTR FUND	TOTAL FUNDS	NON-DED FUNDS
2022 Forward	616.00	2442.69	3844.61	785.92
YTD Received	0.00	642.00	8855.19	8213.19
YTD Paid	0.00	502.60	9529.22	9026.62
YTD Funds	616.00	2582.09	3170.58	-27.51

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A Message from the Secretary

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Secretary Mike Rogers KN6MIO

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Meetings recorded by the Secretary

The January meeting was held in person. The meeting consisted of the pledge and then we jumped right into the topic of the day POTA! Our club President gave a very well thought out discussion and presentation about doing parks on the air. It took up the entire meeting.

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Let’s talk about Anderson Power Poles

Have you ever seen or at least heard of Anderson Power Poles?

Of course, you have seen and heard of them!

Have you ever explored using them on your radios?

You haven’t????

They are used for ease of connectiosn and the ability to let others use your equipment or you using theirs because the plugs are the same.

They are available from 1 amp all the way up to 200 amps.

They are like a quick connect system for your radio,

They can be used on battery packs, and even used with car cigarette plugs.

A WORD OF WARNING though:
If you get the cheap chinese manufactured ones they may not work with true Anderson Power Poles

For even more information and choices go to this link:

https://www.andersonpower.com/us/en.html

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Yes, you can thank the Romans and the Normans….

It’s February and that means thoughts of love.

And who do we thank for this wonderful holiday that so many celebrate single?

Originally it was a pagan festival that the Romans had called Lupercalia. It was a festival for fertility honored the Roman God of fertility Faunas, and to honor the founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus

The Roman priest would slaughter a goat and a dog and run naked through the streets whipping women with the bloodied hide of the goat. The women would accept this whipping thinking it would make them fertile.

In the third century Emperor Claudius put two priest to death both of whom were named Valentine 2 years apart.

In the 5th century Pope Gelasius outlawed the Roman Festival of Lupercalia. He replaced it with St Valentines day in honor of the slain priest.

So far, there is nothing romantic about the day.

The first recorded association of Valentine's Day with romantic love is believed to be in the Parliament of Fowls (1382) by Geoffrey Chaucer.

OLD ENGLISH	MODERN ENGLISH
"For this was on seynt Valentynes day	"For this was on Saint Valentine's Day
Whan every foul cometh there to chese his make	When every bird comes there to choose his match
Of every kynde that men thynke may	Of every kind that men may think of
And that so huge a noyse gan they make	And that so huge a noise they began to make
That erthe, and eyr, and tre, and every lake	That earth and air and tree and every lake
So ful was, that unethe was there space	Was so full, that not easily was there space
For me to stonde, so ful was al the place	For me to stand—so full was all the place."

Continued on the next page.

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February 14th was associated with birds selecting mates by Chaucer and appears to be the first notion of love associated with the holidays.

The earliest description of February 14 as an annual celebration of love appears in the Charter of the Court of Love. The charter, allegedly issued by Charles VI of France at Mantes-la-Jolie in 1400, describes lavish festivities to be attended by several members of the royal court, including a feast, amorous song and poetry competitions, jousting and dancing.

It's also a day to spend money. Americans are projected to spend $26 billion on Valentine's Day this year, up from $23.9 billion in 2022, according to the National Retail Federation. More than half of consumers plan to celebrate and will spend an average of $192.80, the group said.

Sources:
https://www.npr.org/2011/02/14/133693152/the-dark-origins-of-valentines-day
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s_Day
https://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/history-of-valentines-day-2
https://www.countryliving.com/life/a46353/history-of-valentines-day/
https://www.nytimes.com/article/valentines-day-facts-history.html

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And if Valentines day isn't your thing

On the last day of February during a leap year, there is Bachelor's day.
In Ireland, the women go to the man and ask them for marriage.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bachelor%27s_Day_(tradition)

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The Learning Corner

This episode the editors are introducing a new idea called the learning corner.

This month we will start off with the basics of electronics for those that are new to everything.

We are going to begin with the basics of electricity: conductors, insulators voltage and current.

A conductor is a material that allws electrons to pass through it easily. It does this because most conductors have an excess of electrons that can break free asily.

Metals tend to be good conductors since they have an excess of electrons.

An insulator prevents the flow of electrons easily. Most insulators have few extra electrons.

Wood, Glass [lastic are examples of insulators.

The force that makes electrons move is called voltage.

The rate at which electroms move through a completed circuit is called current.
Think of a hose.
The water that is pushed through the hose has pressure behind it , that is similar to the voltage.

How fast that water moves through the hose is similar to the curent.
Additiona information can be found on youtube , in college online classes, or even from the internet itself.

If we start with the basics we will gradually work our way up to knowing everything about electricity and circuts

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Can You Read This?

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Email the answer to coffeeholic1a@yahoo.com

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Recurring Club Meetings and Events

Instead of the calendar that was here, which was time consuming to edit, I am listing all events that repeat monhly

The club net is on February 6, 13, 20, 27 at 2000 hours using the W6VVR Repeater

The club meeting is February 8th at 1900 hours using the Vacaville Nut tree Airport

The club Cow Town casual QSO is on February 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 1030 hours.

Saturday February 10th at 1900 hours KK6ZJC will be using zoom to practice passing messages.
KK6ZJC can be reached by email at coffeeholic1a@yahoo.com. Please put ECOMM TRAINING ENQUIRY in the subject

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Special Club Meetings and Events

Instead of the calendar that was here, which was time consuming to edit, I am listing all events that are not normal events. This will be things like picnics , foxhunts etc.

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Contest for February

Instead of the calendar that was here, which was time consuming to edit, I am putting a link to a great contesting website by fellow Amateur Radio Operator Bruce Horn,WA7BNM

https://contestcalendar.com/

The calendar list contest in multiple ways.

It is easy to use and regularly updated

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The Club Repeater(s)

The Vaca Valley Radio Club sponsors repeaters on several bands.
The club provides some financial support, but the owners provide a substantial portion of the cost of their operation.
The efforts of the owners are greatly appreciated.

The main repeater for the club is:

Call Sign: W6VVR
Output Frequency: 145.470MHz
Input Frequency: 144.870MHz
CTCSS tone (P.L.): 127.3Hz
Offset Frequency: 600KHz
Offset Direction: Minus

Vaca Valley Radio Club Sponsored Repeaters
As Of November 1, 2023

Rptr Out	Offset	P.L.	Call/ Location	Linked Repeaters
145.470	Minus 600 KHz	127.3	W6VVR Mt Vaca	Linked to 441.650 MHz
440.025	Plus 5 MHz	127.3	WV6F Mt Vaca	
441.650	Plus 5 MHz	100.0	N6VLF Fairfield	Linked to 145.470 MHz
145.140	Minus 600 KHz	77.0 DG-ID 00-00	Moderate level	Can operate Yaesu Fusion AMS Can be linked to 145.470 MHz or 441.650 MHz

Visitors are welcome to use the repeaters.

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EchoLink and AllStar Nodes

The Vaca Valley Radio Club operates both an EchoLink and an Allstar Nodes that link to the clubs main repeater on 145.470 MHz on top of Mt Vaca.

NOTE: EchoLink is UP, Allstar node is UP.

Call Sign: W6VVR

EchoLink Node 454312 W6VVR-R

Allstar Node 51094

Visitors are welcome to use the nodes.

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2024 Officers:

President:	Servando Miramontes	K6SRD
Vice President:	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Treasurer:	Brian Steinberg	KB0A
Secretary:	Mike Rodgers	KN6MIO

2024 Board of Directors:

Art Aronsen	WD6BQX
Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
Mike Gregory	WB6WYF
Will Shaffer	W6SRX

Net Control Operators

1st Week Of The Month	Bob Hawkins	KM6BXZ
2nd Week Of The Month	Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
3rd Week Of The Month	Frank Garay	KJ6RWQ
4th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR
5th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR

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VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Membership	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Repeater Trustee	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Repeater Committee Chair	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Newsletter Editor		
Webmaster	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Net Control Coordinator (Filled by the Vice President as per the Club Constitution)	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Activities Committee Chair	Don Preston	KM6INR
Monthly Message Passing Practice Net	Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC
Foxhunt Coordinator		
Bicycle Events Coordinator		
Parade Events Coordinator		
Winter Field Day Committee		
Dixon Mayfair Parade		
June Field Day Committee		
Merriment on Main		
December Meeting		

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Volunteer Positions (Continued)

Winlink Committee Chair

FL-Digi Committee Chair

Arden Committee Chair

We still have numerous committees that need chairpersons and volunteers for the upcoming year (2024). (See the list above.) They need to be filled for the upcoming year by younger volunteers and those with experience to guide the club forward into the future.

This is your club. You can make it a great club by participating in meetings, events, and nets, or you can watch the club wither away and die from lack of participation by ALL members.

It is in your hands, are you going to watch the club end or are you going to jump in and help steer the club forward to the future?

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Vaca Valley Radio Club, Inc

Membership Application/Renewal Form

November 2019 Dues are payable annually.

New Members Please Fill in All Fields Completely
Renewing Members Please Provide Name and Call Sign, Other Fields *Only if there are changes*

Member Information

FCC Name:_____

Street:_____

Street 2:_____

City:_____

State:_____ Zip-Code+4:_____

Home Phone:_____

Cell Phone:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Payment Information

Member Dues: $25.00 _____

Additional Family Members: $2.00 _____

Student: $5.00 _____

Repeater Donation: _____

Total:_____$_____

Paid by Check: $_____

Check number: _____

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Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

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CONSTITUTION of the VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB. Incorporated

Adopted: January 1988: Amended: 1988, 1989,1991,1992,1993, 2008, 2015, 2019

PREAMBLE

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves and our communities, the rights and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, constitute ourselves the Vaca Valley Radio Club and enact this constitution as our governing law and guide.

It shall be our purpose to further the education and cooperation of all members, to promote fraternalism and operator proficiency, educate the public and encourage the development of new amateurs and members, assist in emergencies and with public welfare and safety, promote Amateur Radio through public service participation, conduct meetings to promote radio knowledge and greater cooperation between members, act to resolve radio interference problems and coordinate the use of the radio frequencies allocated by the Federal government in the best interest of all amateurs residing within the stated jurisdiction of the club, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the communities.

ARTICLE 1: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons Interested in Amateur Radio communications shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application and acceptance upon such terms as the club shall provide in its By-Laws.

Section 2. Members may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the voting membership using secret ballot. The vote must be taken at a business meeting following a business meeting at which the action and vote are proposed.

Section 3. Full membership entitles the member to attend all club activities, vote in elections, hold club office, propose a vote from the floor, and seek club participation in proposed projects and activities.

Section 4. Associate or student membership entitles the member to attend all club activities, speak during meetings, propose a vote from the floor and avail themselves of educational opportunities sponsored by the club.

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ARTICLE 2: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Directors.

Section 2. The officers of this club shall constitute the board of directors.

Section 3. The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of one year by ballot of the members present at the stated annual meeting during November, *with the exception of* the treasurer whose term shall be two calendar years.

Section 4. Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by presidential appointment with approval by five members of the board of directors. The appointee will then serve for the remaining term of office.

Section 5. Officers may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the membership attending a business meeting following the next business meeting at which the vote is proposed.

Section 6. The president ex-officio shall endeavor to be an advisor to the board of directors.

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ARTICLE 3: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The president shall preside at all board meetings and club meetings. The president shall enforce due observance of this constitution and by-laws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents adopted by the club, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of president.

Section 2. The vice-president shall in the absence of the president preside at all board meetings and club meetings. The vice-president shall supervise and be responsible for weekly radio nets for the dissemination of information of common interest to members. The vice-president shall be responsible for scheduling of club activities and meeting programs.

Section 3. The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of board of director's meetings and club meetings, compile records of all duly constituted committees and conduct all written correspondence and forms submitted directly by committees. The secretary shall turn over all items pertaining to their office and belonging to the club to the duly elected successor at the expiration of the term of office.

Section 4. The treasurer shall receive and receipt for all moneys paid to the club; keep an accurate account of all moneys received and expended; pay bills when properly authorized, and submit all necessary forms to Federal and State agencies. The treasurer shall maintain a current list of all members in good standing and present membership applications. The treasurer shall submit bills for payment to those owing money to the club. The treasurer shall turn over all items pertaining to their office and belonging to the club to the duly elected successor at the expiration of their term of office. The term of office shall be two calendar years.

Section 5. The four directors will attend the board of directors meetings. The four directors are responsible for voting in the best interest of the club and Amateur Radio. The directors are expected to solicit opinions and ideas from the general membership and represent them at the board of directors meetings.

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ARTICLE 4: RULES OF GOVERNMENT

Section 1. There will be three types of membership: Full, Associate, and Student. Full membership requires a current amateur radio license. Associate and student memberships are provided for non-licensed persons.

Section 2. Only full members in good standing can vote or hold elective office.

Section 3. Club officers and four full members constituting the board of directors will be elected by ballot and require a plurality of the voting membership present for the election. Any club member may nominate themselves or another member as long as the nominee meets the qualifications for the position. A nominee must acknowledge acceptance of the nomination to the club secretary prior to balloting. All nominations shall be presented to the club secretary in writing. There shall be provision for verbal nominations from the floor prior to balloting. Nominations will be accepted at the October and November business meetings with voting at the November business meeting. The new officers will be installed at the December Social Meeting/Christmas Party.

Section 4. Club meetings are to be of two types: Business and Social. The business meetings will be for the conduction of business. Social meetings are for membership education and the furtherance of the clubs' fraternal relationship.

Section 5. Regularly scheduled business meetings will be held at least 2 times per year and will begin at 6:00 P.M., unless the board of directors deems it necessary to change, at which time the membership shall be informed by email and the weekly club net.

Section 6. Business and board meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise superseded by the club by-laws.

Section 7. Business meetings are required for the election of officers, changing the articles or bylaws, changing the dues of assessment of members, removal of officers or members, and conditions affecting the continual functioning of the club as specified in the articles and bylaws.

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Section 8. A business meeting may be called by the president after notification of the general membership five days in advance. The general membership may request a business meeting by a majority vote of the full membership present at a properly scheduled social meeting. The board of directors may request the scheduling of a business meeting by a vote of the majority of its members. Circumstances for an emergency meeting require a two-thirds vote of the board of directors and notification of the full membership by email or radio net. Business meetings shall be held as necessary.

Section 9. A social meeting will be held on the stated meeting date whenever a business meeting is not scheduled. The order and nature of the meeting will be determined by the president. Social meetings should be held, when possible, and with sufficient notification, at regular locations and times to encourage greater overall participation.

Section 10. The president may take emergency action on activities, events, and expenditures, providing that the actions are reported to the board of directors as soon as possible. The president must then request a vote to determine if the actions will be endorsed and supported by the board.

Section 11. The president may call a business meeting during a regularly scheduled social meeting for the purpose of transaction of urgent or emergency business. This requires the approval of a majority of the members of the board of directors in attendance.

Section 12. The board of directors is required to meet at least twice a year. The date and times are to be selected by the president and approved by the board of directors.

Section 13. Board of directors meetings requires a minimum of four board members to be present to constitute a quorum and conduct club business.

Section 14. The president may be counted for constituting a quorum, but can vote only to make or break a tie.

Section 15. The board of directors has the authority to approve all expenditures, events, activities, and incidental matters pertaining to the club.

Section 16. Any club member may attend a board of directors meeting.

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BY-LAWS of the VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB. Incorporated

Section 1. Full and associate membership dues will be $25.00 per year. Dues are valid for 12 months through the end of the month in which they were originally paid. Family members at the same residence may become Full or Associate members by paying $2.00 per person per year. Student membership will be $5.00.

Section 2. The club shall maintain legal corporate status.

Section 3. The club shall maintain, advance, and support communications equipment and projects common to Amateur Radio and club interest.

Section 4. The club shall recognize that there are many aspects of Amateur Radio and it endorses individual participation. The club shall provide for activities and events to educate and advance members' proficiency and to further the best interest of the community and Amateur Radio in general.

Section 5. If practical the club shall publish and distribute the club newsletter as determined by the Board Of Directors.

Section 6. The club shall endeavor to maintain membership in the American Radio Relay League, so far as the relationship does not interfere with the best interest of the club.

END

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Directions To the Monthly Meeting from Fairfield, Suisun City And Other Areas West of Vacaville

Coming from Fairfield: Take Highway 80 East Bound. Take exit 55 Nut Tree Parkway / Allison Drive. Stay to the left and enter the right left turn lane

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Turn left from the right turn lane and stay in the right lane.

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Go over the overpass and make the right turn onto East Monte Vista Avenue.

Turn right onto East Monte Vista avenue and get into the left lane. Stay in the left lane until you pass Lowes. The airport is the first left past Lowes.
E Monte Vista Ave
1410
Allison Dr
Allison Dr
Google

Get in the left lane of E Monte Vista Avenue and drive East until you pass Lowes.

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The airport is immediately past the Lowes Parking lot.

Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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Directions To The Monthly Meeting From Dixon, Sacramento And Other Areas East of Vacaville

Coming West from Dixon take the E Monte Vista Avenue exit, (exit 55)

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Take the Right turn Lane at the exit

Stay in the right lane until the light.
At the light turn Right and get into the left lane.

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Get into the left lane and drive East until you see Lowes.
The airport is immediately past the Lowes parking lot

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Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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